

# Calendar No. 991

68TH CONGRESS }  
2d Session }

SENATE

{ REPORT  
No. 926

PENSIONS AND INCREASE OF PENSIONS TO CERTAIN SOLDIERS  
AND SAILORS OF THE CIVIL WAR, MEXICAN WAR, INDIAN WAR,  
SPANISH WAR, ETC.

---

JANUARY 22 (calendar day, JANUARY 24), 1925.—Ordered to be printed

---

Mr BURSUM, from the Committee on Pensions, submitted the  
following

## REPORT

[To accompany S. 3314]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (S. 3314) granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Mexican War, the Civil War, Indian Wars, and Spanish War, certain Civil War and Spanish War nurses, certain maimed soldiers; widows of the War of 1812, Civil War, the Mexican War, Indian Wars, Spanish War and Regular Establishment; certain remarried widows, minor children and helpless children, and for other purposes, having considered the same, reports the bill back to the Senate with the recommendation that the bill do pass with amendments.

### RATES FIXED BY EXISTING LAW

Section 4699, Revised Statutes, provides that the rate of \$18 per month may be proportionately divided for any degree of disability established for which section 4695 makes no provision.

The act of August 27, 1888, provides a \$30 rate for total deafness and authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to grant such proportion thereof in cases of partial deafness as he may deem equitable. Act of January 15, 1903, increases rate for total deafness to \$40. Rates on partial degrees not affected.

The act of March 2, 1895, provides that—

All pensioners now on the rolls who are pensioned at less than \$6 per month for any degree of pensionable disability shall have their pension increased to \$6 per month; and that hereafter, whenever any applicant for pension would under existing rates be entitled to less than \$6 for any single disability or several combined disabilities, such pensioner shall be rated at not less than \$6 per month.

## PENSIONS AND INCREASE OF PENSIONS

*Rates based on service in different wars*

## SURVIVORS

	Per month
Indian wars:	
Acts July 27, 1892, June 27, 1902, and May 30, 1908	\$8
Act Feb. 19, 1913	20
Act Mar. 4, 1917	20
Mexican War:	
Act Jan. 29, 1877	8
Acts Jan. 5, 1893, and Apr. 23, 1900, certain survivors	12
Act Mar. 3, 1903, all survivors	12
Act Feb. 6, 1907—	
At 62 years	12
At 70 years	15
At 75 years	20
Act May 11, 1912	30
Act May 1, 1920	50
Act May 1, 1920, if requiring regular aid and attendance	72
Civil War:	
Act June 27, 1890, in its original form, and also as amended by the act May 9, 1900	6-12
Act Feb. 6, 1907—	
At 62 years	12
At 70 years	15
At 75 years	20
Act May 11, 1912	13-30
Act June 10, 1918	30-40
Act May 1, 1920	50
Act May 1, 1920, if requiring regular aid and attendance	72
War with Spain, Philippine insurrection, Boxer rebellion: Survivors, act June 5, 1920	12-30

## ARMY NURSES

Civil War:	
Act Aug. 5, 1892	12
Act May 1, 1920	30
War with Spain, Philippine insurrection, Boxer rebellion: Acts June 5, 1920, and Sept. 1, 1922	12-30

## WIDOWS AND MINORS

Revolutionary War:	
Act Mar. 9, 1879, widows only	8
Act Mar. 19, 1886, widows only	12
War of 1812:	
Act Mar. 9, 1878, widows only	8
Act Mar. 19, 1886, widows only	12
Act Sept. 8, 1916, widows only	20
Act May 1, 1920, widows only	30
Indian wars:	
Acts July 27, 1892, June 27, 1902, and May 30, 1908, widows only	8
Act Apr. 19, 1908, Mar. 4, 1917, sec. 1, widows only	12
Mexican War:	
Act Jan. 29, 1887, widows only	8
Act Apr. 19, 1908, sec. 1, widows only	12
Act Sept. 8, 1916, widows only	20
Act May 1, 1920, widows only	30
Civil War:	
Act Mar. 19, 1886, widows and minors	12
Act June 27, 1890, in its original form, and as amended by the act of May 9, 1900, widows and minors	8
Act Apr. 19, 1908, widows and minors	12
Act Sept. 8, 1916, widows and remarried widows	20
Act Oct. 6, 1917, widows only	25
Act May 1, 1920, widows, remarried widows, and minors	30
War with Spain, Philippine insurrection, and Boxer rebellion—	
Act July 16, 1918, widows and minors	12
Act Sept. 1, 1922, widows, remarried widows, and minors	20

From and after July 25, 1866, a widow is entitled, under the provisions of section 4703, Revised Statutes, to the sum of \$2 per month additional on account of each legitimate minor child of the deceased soldier or sailor (in her care and custody, if by his former marriage) until such child reaches the age of 16 years. Where the widow has died, remarried, or has no title, the minor children under 16 years of age may be entitled to the pension.

In claims under the act of June 27, 1890, both in its original and amended forms, the additional pension of \$2 per month is granted. In addition, provision is made in said act for the continuance of pension granted to an insane, idiotic, or otherwise physically or mentally helpless minor child during its life or during the period of disability. This proviso is applicable to minors' claims under any statute.

The act of May 1, 1920, provides for an additional rate of \$6 per month instead of \$2 on account of each minor child of the officer or enlisted man of the Civil War. The act of September 1, 1922, provides for an additional rate of \$4 instead of \$2, on account of each minor child of the officer or enlisted man in the war with Spain. Philippine insurrection, or Chinese Boxer rebellion campaigns.

*Rates for "Permanent specific disabilities"*

Disabilities	From July 4, 1864	From Mar. 3, 1865	From June 6, 1866	From June 4, 1872	From June 4, 1874	From Feb. 28, 1877	From June 17, 1878	From Mar. 3, 1879
Loss of both hands.....	\$25.00	-----	-----	\$31.25	\$50.00	-----	\$72.00	-----
Loss of both feet.....	20.00	-----	-----	31.25	50.00	-----	72.00	-----
Loss of sight of both eyes.....	25.00	-----	-----	31.25	50.00	-----	72.00	-----
Loss of sight of one eye, the sight of the other having been lost before enlistment.....	-----	-----	\$25.00	31.25	50.00	-----	72.00	-----
Loss of one hand and one foot.....	-----	\$20.00	-----	24.00	-----	\$36.00	-----	-----
Loss of a hand or a foot.....	-----	-----	15.00	18.00	-----	-----	-----	-----
Loss of an arm at or above the elbow or a leg at or above the knee.....	-----	-----	15.00	18.00	24.00	-----	-----	-----
Loss of either a leg at the hip joint or an arm at the shoulder joint, or so near as to prevent the use of an arti- ficial limb.....	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Loss of leg at hip joint.....	-----	-----	15.00	24.00	-----	-----	-----	\$37.50
Loss of an arm at shoulder joint.....	-----	-----	15.00	18.00	24.00	-----	-----	-----
Total disability in both hands.....	-----	-----	25.00	31.25	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total disability in both feet.....	-----	-----	20.00	31.25	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total disability in one hand and one foot.....	-----	-----	20.00	24.00	-----	36.00	-----	-----
Total disability in one hand or one foot.....	-----	-----	15.00	18.00	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total disability in arm or leg.....	-----	-----	15.00	18.00	-----	-----	-----	-----
Disability equivalent to the loss of a hand or a foot (third grade).....	-----	-----	15.00	18.00	-----	-----	-----	-----
Incapacity to perform manual labor (second grade).....	-----	-----	20.00	24.00	-----	-----	-----	-----
Regular aid and attendance (first grade).....	-----	-----	25.00	31.25	50.00	-----	72.00	-----

These statistics prepared by the Commissioner of Pensions show that the young Civil War widow whom so many denigrate comments have been made is a negligible entity.

Disabilities	From Mar. 3, 1883	From Mar. 3, 1885	From Aug. 4, 1886	From Feb. 12, 1889	From Mar. 2, 1903	From Apr. 8, 1904	From May 1, 1920
Loss of both hands.....				\$100.00			
Loss of both feet.....					\$100.00		
Loss of sight of both eyes.....						\$100.00	
Loss of sight of one eye, the sight of the other having been lost before enlistment.....						100.00	
Loss of one hand and one foot.....					60.00		\$90.00
Loss of a hand or a foot.....	\$24.00		\$30.00		40.00		60.00
Loss of an arm at or above the elbow or a leg at or above the knee.....	30.00		36.00		46.00		65.00
Loss of either a leg at the hip joint or an arm at the shoulder joint, or so near as to prevent the use of an artificial limb.....			45.00		55.00		72.00
Loss of leg at hip joint.....			45.00		55.00		72.00
Loss of an arm at shoulder joint.....		\$37.50	45.00		55.00		
Total disability in both hands.....							
Total disability in both feet.....							
Total disability in one hand and one foot.....					60.00		90.00
Total disability in one hand or one foot.....	24.00		30.00		40.00		60.00
Total disability in arm or leg.....	24.00		36.00		46.00		65.00
Disability equivalent to the loss of a hand or a foot (third grade).....	24.00						
Incapacity to perform manual labor (second grade).....	30.00						
Regular aid and attendance (first grade).....							

The rate for total deafness is \$13, from June 4, 1872; \$30 from August 27, 1888; and \$40 from January 15, 1903.

The rate of \$30 is divisible for lesser degrees of deafness.

What is known as an "intermediate rate" of \$50 per month is created by the act of July 14, 1892, for a degree of disability requiring frequent and periodical but not constant aid and attendance.

### *Civil War widows now on the rolls and ages thereof*

Ages:		Ages—Continued.	
42.....	488	78.....	13,192
48.....	488	79.....	14,658
49.....	488	80.....	18,078
50.....	488	81.....	14,170
52.....	488	82.....	8,795
53.....	1,466	83.....	3,420
54.....	977	84.....	4,886
55.....	488	85.....	3,909
56.....	1,466	86.....	1,954
57.....	1,466	87.....	3,420
58.....	977	88.....	2,443
59.....	2,443	89.....	1,954
60.....	977	90.....	488
61.....	3,420	91.....	488
62.....	2,443	94.....	488
63.....	2,932		
64.....	6,352	Total.....	<sup>1</sup> 257,000
65.....	4,886		
66.....	7,329	Ages from—	
67.....	7,329	60 to 72, inclusive.....	80,132
68.....	6,352	60 to 73, inclusive.....	95,279
69.....	5,375	60 to 74, inclusive.....	107,494
70.....	7,818	Under 60.....	11,723
71.....	11,238	63 and under.....	21,495
72.....	13,681	64 and over.....	235,505
73.....	15,147	64 to 69, inclusive.....	37,633
74.....	12,215	70 and over.....	197,882
75.....	15,147	73 and over.....	165,145
76.....	15,635	74 and over.....	149,998
77.....	14,658	75 and over.....	137,783

These statistics prepared by the Commissioner of Pensions show that the young Civil War widow about whom so many derogatory comments have been made is a negligible entity—



Section 1 of this bill will increase the rate of pension for Mexican and Civil War soldiers from \$50 to \$60 a month.

Section 2 of the bill will increase the rates of pension for persons who served in the war with Spain, the Philippine insurrection, and Chinese Boxer rebellion under a graduated schedule from a minimum of \$12 to a minimum of \$16 a month and from a maximum of \$30 to a maximum of \$40 a month. It also provides for a similar regulated scale of rates for soldiers who served in the Indian wars, or campaigns, and in defense of the Texas frontier. It extends the provisions, limitations, and benefits of this section to certain nurses who were employed during the Spanish war.

Section 3 of this bill provides a rate of \$72 a month for persons who served during the war with Mexico, Civil War, Indian War, or on the Texas frontier, the war with Spain, Philippine insurrection, and Chinese Boxer rebellion, who have become so helpless or blind as to require the regular personal aid and attendance of another person. The present law extends this rate only to persons who are pensioned under the general law and to soldiers who served during the Civil War.

Section 4 of this bill increases the rate of pension of widows and remarried widows of soldiers who served in the War of 1812, the Mexican War, and the Civil War, the Indian wars or campaigns, the Texas frontier, the war with Spain, Philippine insurrection, Chinese Boxer rebellion, or Regular Establishment, entitled to a pension under existing laws and who have attained the age of 74 years from \$30 to \$35 a month. If this section is enacted into law the effect will be that after the 4th day of March all widows now on the pension roll after attaining the age of 74 will receive \$35 a month. The proviso in this section also increases the rate of pension of the widows of soldiers who served in the Indian wars, the Texas frontier, Spanish war, Philippine insurrection, or Chinese Boxer rebellion, or Regular Establishment who have not attained the age of 74 years to \$25 a month. The Spanish war widows under existing law now receive \$20 a month and the other widows receive \$12 a month.

Section 5 of this bill provides a rate of \$8 a month on account of each child of the soldier under 16 years of age and helpless children. Under existing law the child of a soldier who served in the Regular Establishment receives an allowance of \$2 a month in addition to that paid the widow. The child of a soldier who served in the Spanish war receives an additional allowance of \$4 a month. The child of a soldier who served in the Civil War receives \$6 a month. The child of a World War soldier receives \$10 a month additional.

Section 6 of this bill increases the rate of pension of Civil War nurses from \$30 to \$50 a month.

Section 7 of this bill extends the provisions, limitations, and benefits of the act of May 1, 1920, and this act to the classes of persons enumerated in the first and third paragraphs of section 4693 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, who served during the Civil War. Under the present interpretation of the law which now obtains in the Bureau of Pensions, such benefits are limited to the persons mentioned in section 1 of the Revised Statutes mentioned.

Section 8 of the bill increases the rate of pension to certain maimed soldiers who now receive a minimum of \$60 and a maximum of \$100.

Section 9 of the bill fixes the date of commencement of pension under this bill.

Section 10 of the bill provides for the continuance of the \$10 rate on account of the medal of honor soldiers and sailors.

Section 11 of the bill provides for the fee of attorneys under the bill and a penalty of the violations of any of its provisions.

Section 12 of the bill limits the modification of existing law to the specific enactments in this bill.

*Estimate requested on revised Bursum bill, S. 3314, to June 30, 1926*

Civil and Mexican War veterans.....	\$2, 364, 600
Spanish War and Indian war veterans.....	1, 491, 000
Indian war widows.....	203, 814
Spanish War widows.....	220, 000
Mexican War widows.....	19, 365
War of 1812 widows.....	405
Regular Establishment widows.....	93, 432
Civil War widows.....	2, 375, 511
Minors (all classes).....	186, 180
Maimed soldiers.....	90, 162
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>6, 954, 439</b>

*Estimate requested on revised Bursum bill, S. 3314, for fiscal year 1926*

Invalids, Spanish war, act June 5, 1920, Indian war, and nurses..	\$4, 697, 000
Civil War invalids.....	7, 547, 040
Civil War widows.....	11, 202, 365
Minors (all classes).....	744, 600
War of 1812 widows.....	1, 500
Mexican War widows.....	78, 730
Indian war widows.....	815, 256
Maimed soldiers.....	331, 716
Regular Establishment widows.....	373, 728
Spanish War widows.....	991, 000
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>26, 982, 935</b>

MEMORANDUM

Estimated surplus for 1925, approximately.....	7, 000, 000
Appropriation for 1925.....	222, 500, 000
Estimated for 1926, including cost of proposed bill 3314, as modified..	223, 982, 935

TITLE

Amend the title to read as follows:

Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Mexican War, the Civil War, Indian wars, the Spanish War, certain Civil War and Spanish War nurses, certain maimed soldiers; widows of the War of 1812, Civil War, and the Mexican War, Indian wars, Spanish War, and Regular Establishment; certain remarried widows, minor children, and helpless children, and for other purposes.